प्राकृतिक वनों और सुरक्षित क्षेत्रों पर पड़ रहे दबाव को कम करने को ध्यान में रखते हुए सरकार, केन्द्र और राज्य सरकारों, गैर सरकारी संगठनों तथा जन सहकारिताओं की वनीकरण स्कीमों के लिए उपलब्ध वित्तीय संसाधनों तथा उसके लिए किए जा रहे प्रयासों में वृद्धि करने के लिए गम्भीर रूप से अवक्रमित क्षेत्रों के वनीकरण में उद्योगों को, तथा राज्य वन विकास निगमों के साथ साझेदारी के आधार पर शामिल करने पर विचार कर रही है।

विचारार्थ योजना में शामिल किए जाने वाले विभिन्न मुद्दों के सावधानीपूर्वक मूल्यांकन करने और उन पारम्परिक अधिकारों तथा रियायतों जिनका ग्रामीण तथा आदिवासी समुदाय लाभ उठा रहे हैं, की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के बाद ही योजना को अंतिम रूप दिया जाएगा। इस योजना में ग्रामीण और आदिवासी समुदायों को बायोमास ईंधन लकड़ी तथा चारे की उपलब्धता में वृद्धि करके तथा ग्रामीण रोजगार के अवसर मुहैया कराकर लाभान्वित किए जाने का प्रावधान है।

Setting up of a unit of Hosokawa Micron of Japan

410. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hosokawa Micron, a Japanese multinational in pollution control and processing system, is going to set up a unit in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have cleared the aforesaid group's proposal to set up joint venture in other States, particularly in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Government is not aware of any such proposal from Hosokawa Micron of Japan.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Centrally Aided Environment production projects in Gujarat

411. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the Centrally Aided Projects launched to save environment and forests in Gujarat during the last three years, year-wise, in each district;

(b) the achievements made in this regard;

(c) the financial assistance provided to each scheme; and

(d) the details of the schemes proposed to be launched in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The details of the centrally aided projects launched to save environment and forest in Gujarat during the last three years, year-wise, alongwith districts covered and achievement both Financial and Physical are given in the statement at Annexure. [*See* Appendix 173, Annexure No. 8]

(d) The projects are continuing in nature.

Distribution of pattas to formers in Kerala

412. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have given permission to distribute pattas for the farmers who had occupied forest land in Kerala;

(b) if so, the hectares which would be turned into agricultural land; and

(c) what are the conditions on which this sanction is given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Formal approval under the

Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 28,588.159 ha. of forest land for regularisation of pre 1.1.1977 encroachments in forest land in five districts of Kerala namely; Idukki, Pathanamthitta, Thrissur, Ernakulam and Kollam has been accorded by the Ministry on 31.1.95. The proposal of the State Government of Kerala has been approved subject to certain conditions, which *inter alia*, include ground verification and demarcation of area to be regularised in favour of individual encroachers by the State Government, raising of compensatory afforestation over double the degraded forest land in a phased manner and furnishing of monthly reports to the Ministry giving schedules of the forest land assigned in favour of encroachers.

Hydro-Electric Project in the Nilgiris

413. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report under the headline 'Wringing Power out of the fragile Nilgiris' printed by the 'Indian Express' of 23rd February, 1995, has been seen by Government;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Tamil Nadu Government are going ahead with a hydro-electric project in the Nilgiris, which is likely to cause severe damage to the already dilapidated ecology and environment of the region; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The 6MW Kallarpallam hydroelectric project mentioned in the News item has not, so far, been referred for environmental or forest clearance.

Functioning of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board

414. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report entitled 'Ecology group flays MPCB functioning', published in the 'Economic Times' of 22nd February, 1995 which quotes the Save New Bombay Committee alleging a nexus between industries and officials of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board in by passing environmental regulations.

(b) whether Government have conducted any enquiry into the matter and ensured that anti-pollution rules are not violated and those indulging in the malpractice are punished;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Government is not aware of any such nexus between industries and officials of the Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Death of a Cheetah in the Delhi Zoo

415. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI JALALUUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the two surviving cheetahs in the country died in Delhi Zoo recently;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any inquiry into the circumstances leading to the death of the imported cheetah;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Zoos lack in veterinary expertise and infrastructure to maintain and deal with the imported animals; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to remove the deficiency for proper maintenance the wild animals in the Zoos?